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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

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July 22, 1971

TO: EUR - Mr. R.T. Davies
FROM: EUR/CHP - John A. Baker, Jr.
SUBJECT: Senate Foreign Relations Committee Report

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff has asked to have by c.o.b. Friday, if possible, the following figures:

1. Government funds spent by RL in each year since it started;
2. Government funds spent in each year since it started by RFE; and
3. Non-Government funds spent by RFE in last 20 years.

I told them we could probably get these figures on a confidential basis. He stated that in the Committee's public report to the Senate they would wish to indicate what RFE-RL spent in past years (evidently so that this year's proposed figure, now \$35 million, would be in that context.) He said that, if we cannot supply such figures, the level of RFE funding will show only the contributions from public sources with an indication that the remainder was provided by an unspecified amount of Government support. (Presumably, they would use Durkee's letter for this purpose.) For RL they would say that the previous level of Government support was not available, according to Senate staffer Dockery.

Dockery deliberately implied that those reading the Committee's report would come to the conclusion that the Administration was seeking Senate approval for \$35 million for the radios without saying what the recent previous level of expenditure has been. He did not say or imply that Fulbright, who has said he publicly opposes S. 18, would point up this problem on the floor. However, this,

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too, can be expected. I think we can read this as a warning that Fulbright may try to reduce sharply the figure now in S. 18 when it comes to the floor, or even argue against the amendment because it contains a figure which lacks a publicly presented precedent.

There are two ways of handling this: 1) Giving Dockery nothing and mobilizing supporters on the floor who would argue that the proper place to consider the level of funding is in the Appropriations Committee (to which we would, in any case, have to provide previous figures, possibly in Executive session); 2) Taking the position that previous Government funding is admitted the moment you do not object to receiving and using funds under a continuing resolution. With such a position, one could say that the "current monthly expenditure under the continuing resolution is running at [redacted] From this figure, the Committee could deduce the FY 1971 figure of [redacted] The advantage of giving information in this form is that we continue thus to talk about current public monies and avoid any actual statement that covert money was provided in the past. This is getting very thin, of course, and would subject our position to further pressures. OMB has told us that it will not give out any information to the Committee but would say, if asked, that the place to obtain it would seem to be from the budgets of the Radios themselves. If we are forced to say anything, they prefer that we take the line in 2) above. The Agency's preliminary reaction is the same.

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Decision (per meeting with Dick DeLoe on 22/7): Give nothing and refer them to GAO which has figures from hearings already. If this does not prove feasible, go no further than (2) above.

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COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1. OLC

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Attached for your information are copies of four papers relating to the two Radios. They are essentially self-explanatory and, where applicable, I have noted our involvement.

1. An OMB-prepared statement on the current and foreseeable funding of the Radios.

2. Guidance for the State Department press spokesman against the contingency that he would be asked to react to the 22 July New York Times article by Ben Welles. (As of the afternoon of 23 July, no such query had been made.)

3. A description (albeit incomplete) prepared by State's Legislative Liaison Office, on what happened in the 21 July closed hearing of the Fulbright Committee.

4. State memorandum on attempts by Dockery, Staff Aide to Fulbright, to get the USG to supply definitive data on CIA funding of the Radios since their inception.

(Distribution: ADDP/DDP, OLC, OGC, OPPE/EXDIR, C/CA, AC/CA)

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